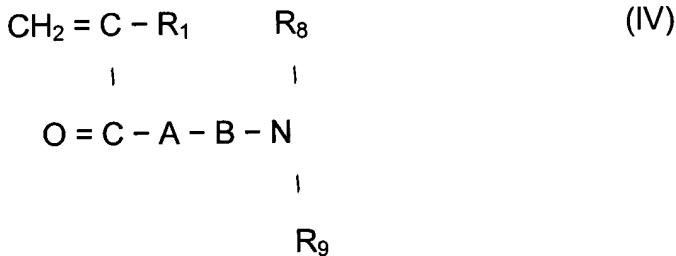


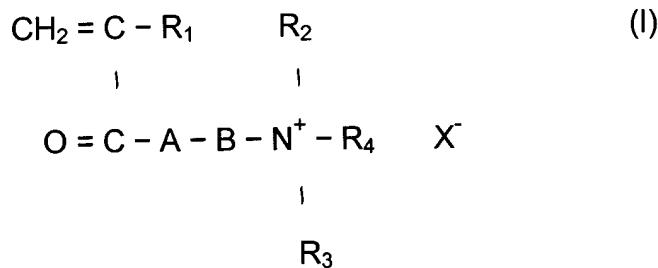
wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture comprising from 75 to 95 mole% of (meth)acrylamide;
 (a) said at least one non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic group comprising a monomer represented by the general formula (IV)



wherein R_1 is H or CH_3 ; A and B represent a single bond between C and N ($\text{O}=\text{C}-\text{NR}_8\text{R}_9$); R_8 and R_9 are each H or a substituent containing an alkyl group having from 1 to 6 carbon atoms, at least one of R_8 and R_9 being a substituent containing an alkyl group having from 2 to 6 carbon atoms;

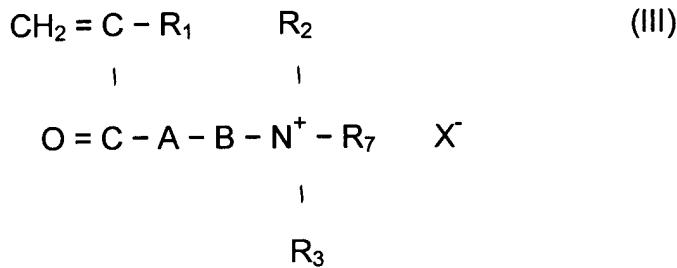
(b) said at least one cationic monomer comprising a cationic monomer selected from the group consisting of:

(i) cationic monomers represented by the general formula (I):



wherein R_1 is H or CH_3 ; R_2 and R_3 are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms or a hydroxy propylene group; R_4 is a non-aromatic hydrocarbon group containing from 4 to 8 carbon atoms; and X^- is an anionic counterion;

(ii) cationic monomers represented by the general formula (III):



wherein R₁ is H or CH₃; R₂ and R₃ are each H or an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms; A is O or NH; B is an alkylene group of from 2 to 4 carbon atoms, or a hydroxy propylene group; R₇ is H, an alkyl group having from 1 to 3 carbon atoms, a benzyl group or a phenylethyl group; and X⁻ is an anionic counterion;

(iii) and mixtures thereof.

Please rewrite claim 55 as follows:

2
C 55. (AMENDED) The cationic vinyl addition polymer of claim 46, wherein the cationic vinyl addition polymer is prepared from a monomer mixture comprising from 5 to 25 mole% of non-ionic monomer having a non-aromatic hydrophobic group, and from 95 to 75 mole% of at least one cationic monomer and (meth)acrylamide.

REMARKS

The Office Action of June 6, 2002 has been carefully reviewed and this response addresses the Examiner's concerns. Claims 26-47, 52, 53, and 55 were pending in the application.

Claim 55 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which